

Amendments to the Claims:

Please amend the claims to read as follows:

1-3. (Cancelled)

4. (Currently amended) The method of claim ~~6~~<sup>10</sup> wherein the step of co-incubation of the amyloid protein with heparan sulfate is in distilled water or Tris-buffered saline (pH 7.0-7.4).

5. (Cancelled)

6. (Currently amended) A method for the formation of particular amyloid plaques, the method comprising *in vitro* co-incubation of beta-amyloid protein 1-40 (SEQ ID NO: 1) for at least 3-7 days at 30-45°C with heparan sulfate, whereby spherical or compact shaped amyloid plaques are formed that demonstrate a Maltese-cross pattern when stained with Congo red and viewed under polarized light, and an amyloid star appearance when viewed by transmission electron microscopy, and further  
~~The method of claim 10 wherein the co-incubation is at a molar ratio of beta-amyloid protein to heparan sulfate within a range of 1:0.5 to 1:100.~~

7. (Previously amended) The method of claim 6 wherein the molar ratio of beta-amyloid protein to heparan sulfate is about 1:5.

8. (Currently amended) A method for the formation of particular amyloid plaques, the method comprising *in vitro* co-incubation of beta-amyloid protein 1-40 (SEQ ID NO: 1) for at least 3-7 days at 30-45°C with heparan sulfate, whereby spherical or compact shaped amyloid plaques are formed that demonstrate a Maltese-cross pattern when stained with Congo red and viewed under polarized light, and an amyloid star appearance when viewed by transmission electron microscopy, and further  
~~The method of claim 10 wherein the co-incubation is at a weight ratio of beta-amyloid protein to heparan sulfate within a range of 1:0.4 to 1:100.~~

9. (Previously amended) The method of claim 8 wherein the weight ratio of beta-amyloid protein to heparan sulfate is about 1:8 or 1:16.

10-13. (Cancelled)

14. (Currently amended) The method of claim ~~6~~<sup>10</sup> wherein the step of co-incubation has a duration of about 7 days.

15. (Currently amended) The method of claim ~~6~~10 wherein the step of co-incubation of the beta-amyloid protein with heparan sulfate occurs at about 37°C.

16-18. (Cancelled)

19. (New) The method of claim 8 wherein the step of co-incubation of the amyloid protein with heparan sulfate is in distilled water or Tris-buffered saline (pH 7.0-7.4).

20. (New) The method of claim 8 wherein the step of co-incubation has a duration of about 7 days.

21. (New) The method of claim 8 wherein the step of co-incubation of the beta-amyloid protein with heparan sulfate occurs at about 37°C.